

STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS

By Lorraine Viade, Psy.D.



Star Trek into Darkness is as satisfying as a banana split. It has everything you want in a movie. It is the perfect homage to the original series. Different, yet so familiar, J.J. Abrams takes his affinity for parallel universes (see *Fringe*) and embeds it into this terrific movie. From beginning to end, fans of the original will find satisfaction in familiar elements, phrases and legends that are made so fresh, so exciting and so dramatic they take on their own lives; separate yet connected to the Star Trek we grew up with. Purists will think that Abrams made changes that messed with the prime directive. I appreciate the respect and creativity found in this re-telling of a classic battle between good and evil. Again we are given the answer to the age-old question that has spawned so much debate: Do the needs of the many outweigh the needs of one? I think Gene Roddenberry had it right. Abrams is spot-on with his modern vision of these characters. *Star Trek into Darkness* is one of those films I could see again and again. There is a certain comfort that comes with these characters.

Star Trek into Darkness is about how friendships are formed and protected over time. It is about relationships between crew members who love and trust each other and how they do their work. The series held great parables and interesting observations about the human condition. Just as William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy created iconic characters for their time, Chris Pine and Zachary Quinto have picked up the torch, boldly going into the future — again. The morality of Star Trek is timelessly perfect for any generation. The adventure is breathtaking and the only way to really appreciate the full impact of *Star Trek into Darkness* is to see it in IMAX. I sat like a little child, jumping up and down in my seat during

certain scenes. If you are going to take creative liberties with a familiar franchise, you can only hope to do it as well as this. I can hardly wait to see what the new *Star Wars* will look like. Bad Robot delivers every time.

Even if you were not a fan of the classic, you can still enjoy everything this movie offers in terms of a high adrenaline summer blockbuster. If there really were a Starship Enterprise with a crew as delightful and heroic as these have proved to be over the decades, all I could say is “Beam me up, Scotty!” I hope there will be many more voyages of this lucrative enterprise.

I give *Star Trek into Darkness* five spaceships.

